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AMMA NEWS

THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.
140 FOREST AVENUE, PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY 07652

Editor Dr. G. H. Chopourian

VOLUME XIII NO. 2

127

APRIL, 1979

This publication combines the former "A.M.A.A. Newsletter" and the "Armenian/American Outlook"



**THIS IS THE SORROW OF
LEBANON**

Have a Heart — Let Support
Flow Like a Mighty Stream

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Գրացէք — Թող Գեաի
Պէս Հոսի Զեր Օգնութիւնը

ON BEING CATALYSTS

— G.H. Chopourian

In the middle of March I received a long, but interesting letter from a distinguished member of the Armenian Church who wrote:

"It is my belief that our Protestant brethren have been downgraded..... and, further, that the Protestants feel it, and bear up with it in silence.

I first became aware of the immense success of our Poghogagans when I did the movie on Armenians in America and found their attainments, and the calibre of the persons I met, out of proportion to their numbers You are Armenians without the political taints that bedevil many of us How many of us, for example, know that Saroyan is a Poghogagan? Incidentally, I do not like the word, and had proposed we use the word Reformist from now on"

noted, however, that in many areas Armenian pastors have been able to bring the ministers in the community together for certain specific functions. In one community, for instance, clergy representing the Etchmiadzin and Antelias Sees, and the Catholic and Protestant communities, were able to meet for lunch the first Monday of each month for many years in order to share common problems, needs and opportunities in the community. In the same community, a united committee of 20 representatives from all the above religious communities have been functioning for more than 15 years as a united front to undertake important Armenian national programs together. At one time, through the influence of our Evangelical pastors, a three-day retreat was held when clergy of the Etchmiadzin and Antelias Sees as well as pastors of the Armenian Evangelical community shared studies together. These are the pleasant waters in which Armenian Evangelicals would like to swim and the smooth paths in which they want to walk. Then again, through the initiative of the Armenian Evangelicals, ecumenical discussions were started with the representatives from the Diocese of the Armenian Church. These lasted over seven years and a final document was released indicating the area of practical cooperation. Unfortunately, however, no initiative has been taken by the Armenian Church Diocese to put into effect the recommendations of the ecumenical committee which the Evangelicals can't do alone.

The above should indicate that our Evangelical heart throbs happily when we are able to bring all elements together for the advancement of the Kingdom of God and the uplifting of our people.

Walking in this same tradition, the AMAA has brought its share of ecumenical effort in many and sundry ways:

1. In the Middle East, where the Association supports 30 schools or more with substantial sums, and administers the Haigazian College through its Trustees in Los Angeles with Dr. Rendel Levonian as Chairman, 80 percent of the student population are non-Evangelical Armenians. This service is rendered with love and commitment.
2. The Armenian Missionary Association of America joined in a joint application with the AGBU and the Armenian Relief Society to obtain funds from the United States Government Agency for International Development. Because of the united appeal, the AID was led to assign \$500,000.00 for Lebanon relief.
3. Only recently, because of the concrete good news that a United Reconstruction Committee in Lebanon is working in a total united way, the A.M.A.A. released \$40,000 to the Committee called COMARES for use for the entire Armenian community needs. This is in addition to about \$180,000 provided this year for other needs of the Armenian Evangelical community, including the Haigazian College.
4. Whenever there has been a call for action in a total way, the A.M.A.A. has brought its share and influence but refused to participate with one or the other group alone. This is more or less a standing policy of the Association.

Let the world know that the Armenian Missionary Association of America stands for total cooperation without, however, endangering its own important identity so that a Reform tradition is in existence. As stated earlier, it is within the essence of the AMAA's purpose that it serve the total needs which are in line with the teachings of Christ who said:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.

He has anointed me to preach the Good News to the poor,

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives,

And recovery of sight to the blind,

To set free the oppressed."

Luke 4:18

I have the conviction that were the Catholicos of the Armenian Church at Etchmiadzin to issue an edict to the effect that the Armenian Evangelicals are part and parcel of the Armenian Church and are the Reformed Branch of the Armenian Church, the entire Armenian Evangelical world would accept that edict as a challenge to become a structured part of the Armenian Church. When we use the word "Reformed Branch" it is no accusation that the Armenian Church is not reformed. It is only in the sense that reformation is a continuous effort and, over the centuries, the Armenian Church leadership itself has talked about reformation of the Armenian Church. Reformed in our case would

be that Armenians draw their principles for conduct and life from the Scriptures alone. If such an ecclesiastical arrangement were made, the situation would become somewhat similar to the Lower and Higher Church as practiced by the Church of England.

Time is running out. We are only helping nations that are against us by the lack of total unity. There will be many articles written about the Armenian massacres perpetrated upon Armenians by the Turks. Without the urgency of total unity, such articles would be empty words. That is our message for April 24 — that we may join hands to walk together to greater achievements and for the salvation of our people in their social, moral, spiritual and political life.

The story is told of a farmer whose son was lost and a search was made for three days without result. A neighbor suggested that all the neighborhood be called and asked that they hold hands and walk down the one-square mile cornfield. The suggestion was followed, the corn was trampled down and close to the end of the field one handholder stumbled upon the boy. They lifted him up, dead! The father of the boy beat his breast and said: "Why didn't someone have this idea three days earlier? My son would now be living."

Time is running out. Time is now to cooperate fully without giving up our individual identities.

That is the role of the catalyst: to be the element of change and to retain one's identity. That, the Evangelicals are ready and willing to be and to do.

The Inspirational Corner

TRUE HAPPINESS

(Matthew 5:3-12 — Good News For Modern Man)

"Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor:
the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

"Happy are those who mourn:
God will comfort them!

"Happy are the meek:
they will receive what God has promised!

"Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires:
God will satisfy them fully!

"Happy are those who show mercy to others:
God will show mercy to them!

"Happy are the pure in heart:
They will see God!

"Happy are those who work for peace among men:
God will call them his sons!

"Happy are those who suffer persecution because they do what God requires:
the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

"Happy are you when men insult you and mistreat you and tell all kinds of evil lies against you because you are my followers. Rejoice and be glad, because a great reward is kept for you in heaven. This is how men mistreated the prophets who lived before you."

LOYALTY

Romans 8:37-39

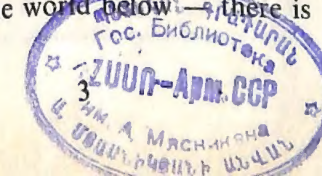
No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us! For I am certain that nothing can separate us from his love: neither death nor life; neither angels nor other heavenly rulers or powers; neither the present nor the future; neither the world above nor the world below; there is

nothing in all creation that will ever be able to separate us from the love of God which is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOD'S SURE PROMISE

(Hebrews 6:17-20)

God wanted to make it very clear to those who were to receive what he promised that he would never change his purpose; so he added his vow to the promise. There are these two things, then, that cannot change and about which God cannot lie. So we who have found safety with him are greatly encouraged to hold firmly to the hope that is placed before us. We have this hope as an anchor for our hearts. It is safe and sure, and goes through the curtain of the heavenly temple into the inner sanctuary. Jesus has gone in there before us, on our behalf. He has become a high priest for ever, like Melchizedek.



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UNUSUAL IDEAS PROVIDE PRAYER
AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

FIRST GRADERS THANK AND PRAY FOR THE AMAA

The Association has been inspired by three ideas that reached its offices in the last few weeks.

The first one was a beautiful idea conceived by the first grade Sunday

School teacher of the First Armenian Church of Belmont. Three letters came from that many first graders who have indicated that they are very happy with what the AMAA is doing and extend prayer for the great work done.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY GIFTS ASSIGNED TO THE AMAA

The second came as a thoughtful use of gifts made on the occasion of the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Moses B. Manoukian of Washington D.C. The couple indicated that in lieu of gifts, donations could be assigned to the AMAA so that the Association could assist the Institute for Armenian Blind and Deaf in Beirut.

Sixty-four persons made donations in honor of the Manoukians and the total amount received was \$1,705.

BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY GIFTS ASSIGNED TO THE AMAA

The third surprise we received was stated in the following letter from Mrs. Evelyn R. Pease, daughter of Mrs. Nevart Janbazian, New Jersey:

'On February 25, 1979 we celebrated our mother's birthday in Pasadena. In lieu of gifts we asked that they donate to the AMAA, if they so desired, since that has been a cause close to mother's heart for many years. 'We are so fortunate to have so much, and able to enjoy it here in this country. How can we do less than share our substance with others?' she has said so often and to so many. We are enclosing checks which were given at the dinner party and wish you to add them to others which have been mailed directly to you.'



Mrs. Nevart Janbazian

The gathering was a happy occasion when only relatives and friends of many years were present. It was the type usually seen at more solemn times and for a different reason. This time the honoree could hear the tributes and thanks, for her example of Christianity and strength in spite of illness and pain; for her many fruitful endeavors in people's personal lives; and for her inspiration, even to the clergy when they called on her (as Rev. Melidonian cited)."

On the day we received the letter, twenty persons had contributed \$625 in honor of Mrs. Nevart Janbazian and more contributions are expected.

When people love an Association, an object or an idea, they pray about it and endeavor in their own ways to promote the good work done.

We are grateful to all of the above for their prayers and the practical expression of their prayers for the Association. With such an array of witnesses, we know we cannot fail.

'Well done, good and faithful servant!' said his master. 'You have been faithful in managing small amounts, so I will put you in charge of large amounts. Come on in and share my happiness!' Matthew 25:23

FULLER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

The Fuller Theol. Seminary in Pasadena, CA has been chosen by the AEUNA, in cooperation with the AMAA, as the center for the Arm. Theol. Studies Prog.

The purpose is to help train qualified pastors and leaders for our churches in the U.S. The first course will be taught in the Fall Semester of 1979 by the Rev. Harry Missirlian on the "History of Armenian Christianity." A Field work program is also being organized under the direction of the Rev. Vartkes Kassouni.

Students are now being recruited. Those interested should contact the Rev. Vartkes Kassouni at the United Arm. Cong. Church, 3480 Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood, CA 90027, Tel. (213) 851 - 5265.

A.M.A.A.'S FINANCIAL PROVISIONS FOR LEBANON

The public is not fully aware of the amount of assistance that is provided by the AMAA to Lebanon in view of the tragedy there. This is because of our tight distribution policy. Volunteer committees receive AMAA's assistance, distribute it without any reduction of any kind and recipients are instructed to acknowledge to the AMAA directly.

We list below the purposes and causes for which the total amount of \$202,754 has been transmitted:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Amount. Rows include Regular Programs (Child Education, Churches and Missions, Evangelism, Haigazian College, Designated Gifts, Medical, Relief for Undernourished Children, Retired Teachers, Orphanages and Institutions) and Emergency Provisions (Medical, To Comares, To Schools to Underwrite Deficits, General).

The item COMARES was supplemented by a \$25,000 donation to the A.M.A.A. from the Armenian National Sanatorium, Miss Leila Karagheusian, Treasurer, for Relief purposes in Lebanon. The A.M.A.A. has provided this amount to COMARES because there is a genuine united effort in dealing with the total Armenian needs without denominational discrimination.

ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL EFFORT FOR LEBANON RELIEF RESPONSE TO A.M.A.A.'S APPEAL FOR SUPPORT AS OF OCTOBER THROUGH MARCH 18, 1979

In response to the Appeal of the AMAA, Evangelical Churches registered the following record. First place goes to the United Armenian Cong'l Church, second to the Immanuel Armenian Cong'l Church, both in Los Angeles, and third place to the Armenian Evangelical Church of beleaguered Teheran.

Table with 4 columns: Church, Donations thru Church or Chapter, Donations from Members direct to AMAA, and Total. Rows list various churches and their respective donation amounts, ending with a Total row.

The churches which show low returns have not yet developed direct appeals to their membership. We look forward to report larger contributions for those churches. Our deep gratitude to our churches and friends.

Handwritten letter from Laurel Dulgarian, First Belmont Armenian Church Sunday School First Grade, dated 2/4/79.

Handwritten letter from Jill Eskandarlian, First Belmont Armenian Sunday School First Grade, dated 2/4/79.

Handwritten letter from David Vemertjian, First Belmont Armenia Church Sunday School First Grade, dated 2/4/79.

THE CHARM OF THE THREE M'S

Three contemporary greats, whose surnames begin with M, made news of importance for all Armenians to be thankful for the caliber of leaders the American-Armenian community possesses.

STEPHEN P. MUGAR RECEIVES ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY AWARD

At a Dinner ceremony held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Sunday, March 4, 1979, at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Stephen P. Mugar was presented the first Distinguished Service Award by the Armenian Assembly in recognition of his lifelong contributions to community affairs and public life.



Stephen Mugar

Stephen Mugar is well known in greater Boston as the founder of the Star Markets and a public benefactor who has contributed millions of dollars to educational institutions in New England and abroad. Mr. Mugar always sought to share his good fortune with the community that made his success possible. In his own words, "I felt that I had signed a note when I landed on Ellis Island, and I knew that I must honor my obligation. My giving to local colleges is also my partial repayment in gratitude for the patronage of our customers over so many years."

On March 5, 1979 Mr. Mugar celebrated his 78th birthday and it was fitting that he receive the first Armenian Assembly Distinguished Service Award and the well wishes of his friends on this occasion. On behalf of the AMAA, a group of 10 people made up of officers or present and immediate past Board of Directors members attended the celebration Dinner and extended the good wishes of the Association personally.

MR. ALEX MANOOGIAN HONORED FOR 25 YEARS OF PRESIDENCY

On the occasion of the Dinner tendered in honor of Mr. Alex Manoogian on December 9, 1978 in New York celebrating the 25th Anniversary of his AGBU International Presidency, the AMAA Board of Directors sent the following congratulatory telegram:

"Armenian General Benevolent Union: The Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America take pleasure in extending congratulations to Mr. Alex Manoogian on the occasion of the dinner being tendered in his honor on December 9th celebrating the 25th Anniversary of his AGBU International Presidency.

Mr. Manoogian has earned the universal gratitude of Armenians of all sectors and has brought credit and fame to our Armenian people, making all of us proud of him and proud to be Armenians.

We thank God for his devotion to Armenian causes and pray God will give him and his gracious wife many more fruitful and fulfilling years.

*On behalf of the Armenian Missionary Association's Board of Directors
Archie Cherkezian, President
G.H. Chopourian, Executive Director"*

Board members and Officers of the Association were in Fresno, California, for Board and Annual meetings at the time, for which reason they were unable to present greetings and congratulations in person.

Life AGBU International President Alex Manoogian received a standing ovation at the 25th Anniversary Testimonial Dinner in commendation for his contributions to the Armenian community at large and to the United States.

WE SALUTE THESE THREE GREAT AMERICAN-ARMENIANS.

**THEIR EXEMPLARY AND GENEROUS LIVES
BROUGHT HOPE FOR THE UPBUILDING OF
OUR NATIONAL PRIORITIES.**

AMBASSADOR SET MOMJIAN HONORED FOR APPOINTMENT TO U.N. REPRESENTATION

In early December, 1978, Mr. Alex Manoogian extended a party to honor Mr. Set Momjian, an AMAA Board member, on the occasion of his appointment by President Carter as U.S. Representative to the United Nations General Assembly. The Board of Directors sent a congratulatory telegram which read:

"Dear Mr. Manoogian:

Our schedule in California makes it impossible to accept your gracious invitation to attend the reception tendered in honor of Ambassador Set Momjian. Please be kind enough to accept our regrets and transmit our greetings to Mr. Set Momjian. His rise to a position of political importance has been phenomenal. We pray for continued successes.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America,

*Archie Cherkezian, President
G.H. Chopourian, Executive Director"*

Board members and Officers of the Association having been in Fresno, California, for Board and Annual meetings were unable to be present in person.

Mr. Momjian has served our Association well as Board member and as Sixtieth Anniversary Campaign National Chairman. His presence in 9 important banquets and at Ellis Island was an inspiration to over 4,000 persons in attendance at these functions.

The Board of Directors wish to record our gratitude for his selfless devotion to duty in favor of all Armenians.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AT FIRST ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, MONTREAL

By Hagop K. Basmadjian

The First Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal held a candlelight service on the eve of December 23 to celebrate the 1978th anniversary of the birth of our Lord. The church was filled from all walks of Armenian life in Montreal — an estimated two hundred altogether.

The program for the evening was built around a selection of nineteen Armenian and English Christmas carols sung by the church choir under the direction of conductor-organist Mrs. Pailig Hanenian. The medley included such all-time favorites as "Away In a Manger," "What Child Is This," "Silent Night" and many more. The audience took part in praising God by singing three of the carols together with the choir.

Special messages for the day were delivered in Armenian by Rev. Hovhannes Agnerian, pastor of the church, and in English by Rev. Roy Fuller, Director of the French Mission of the Nazarene Church of Canada. Readings from the inspired Word of



The First Armenian Evangelical Church Choir in Montreal, photographed after the candlelight service.

God were also made by Messrs. Vartan Bakerdjian and Hagop Basmadjian.

It was an unprecedented concert rather than a candlelight service for the Armenian Evangelical community of Montreal. The main thing which had much impressed the audience was the combination of Mrs. Hanenian's musical talent and taste with the expression of her deep conviction that real celebration of Christmas would be only by admiring and worshipping the Babe of Bethlehem who had come to be the

Savior and the Prince of Peace.

At the conclusion of the concert, the Ladies' Auxiliary treated the guests to a warm and lively reception in the auditorium of the church. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every member of the choir, its conductor, the Ladies Auxiliary and to all those individuals who took part in the activities of this memorable evening. Last but not least, praise be to God for the wonderful Gift of Christmas to which this concert was dedicated.

HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE LADIES AUXILIARY SPONSORS OKTOBERFEST AT JANJIGIAN RESIDENCE

The Eastern Committee of the Haigazian College Ladies Auxiliary sponsored an "Oktoberfest" on Saturday, October 21, 1978 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Janjigian of Franklin Lakes, N.J.

The fun-filled evening was attended by 65 guests who enjoyed the superb German style food prepared by the members of the Auxiliary, good music and the warm hospitality of the hosts Lucy and Edward Janjigian.

The evening proved to be the successful highlight of several social and fund-raising functions in addition to being a financial success for the benefit of Haigazian College.

Activities to look forward to this Spring and Summer include a Tennis Party to be held at the Haworth Golf and Racquet Club on Saturday, April 28, 1979 at 7:30 p.m. A Texas-style Barbecue is planned for July 15th at the home of Sam and Sandy Hekemian of Oradell, New Jersey.

A NIGHT AT/ON THE COURTS

Tennis Backgammon Bridge whatever your preference Food and Refreshments too!

Date — Saturday, April 28, 1979

Time — 7:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

Place — Haworth Golf & Racquet Club
Lake Shore Drive
Haworth, New Jersey

Donation: \$15 Tennis; \$7.50 Non-Tennis

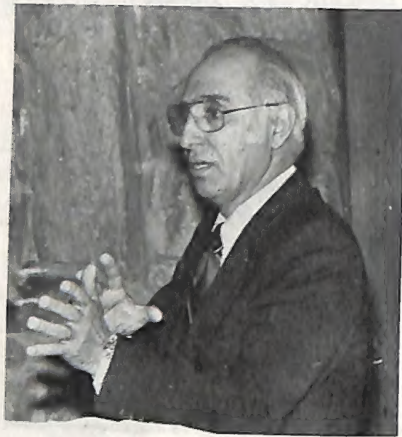
Interested parties may phone Mrs. Sylvia Bedrosian, (201) 391 - 1386.



Pictured from left to right: Mr. & Mrs. Vatche Bahadourian, Mrs. Billie Kardashian, Dr. Jirayr Tezel, Mr. Roy Gertmenian, Mrs. Louise Tezel, Dr. Ruth Davis, Mrs. Lucy Janjigian.

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Ամերիկայի Հայ Առնարանական Ընկերակցութեան 60-ամեակին առթիւ



Dr. Norair Sarian, Vice-President AMAA, reciting the "Ode to the AMAA."

(Editor's note: This inspirational poem composed by Norair Sarian MD, was recited by him at the Banquet at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on the evening of November 18, 1978. It is with a great deal of pride that we reproduce this "Ode to the AMAA").

Այս իրիկուն
մէն մի հայուն
60-ամեայ հրաշք եւ դուն:
Միլիոնատո հայ զոհերու
երկունքներու
լուսապսակ ծնունդ եւ դուն:
Նախ՝ դուն էիր լոկ գաղափար,
տեսիլք պայծառ,
բայց երբ ծնար
առիր մարմին ու կաղապար:
Սեւ եղեռնէն ցաւագալար,
քեզ կարեկից բազմահազար
հայ սրտերէ աիշ աիշ սնանեցար
եւ ուռնացար.
հայ արցունքով շաղախուեցար:
Թշնամիին մահատարած
հորէն անցած,
սուրէն անցած,
արիւնաբբու թշնամիին
անասնացած
արիւնլուայ մագիլներէն հագիւ պոծած,
իմ հայ ազգիս բեկորներուն կմախքացած,
եղար հրաշք,
եւ եղար յոյս
եւ անշէջ յոյս
աստուածատուր:
Հայ հոգիին, հայ հաւատքին անպարտելի
ծնունդն եւ դուն.
60-ամեայ հրաշք եւ դուն:

Թէն էիր փոքրը առուակ,
եւ ածուդ ալ շատ փոքր ածու,
հունձքդ միշտ ալ եղաւ առատ:
Թէն էիր փոքրաքանակ,
արտադրածդ միշտ ալ եղաւ խիստ
ազդեցու,
եւ տեսակովն ալ բարձրորակ,
հսկայական, փոքր կազմիդ անհամեմատ:

Բայց աղօթքս է, որ չմոռնաս,
թէ կը պարտուի քայլերդ յաջող մինչեւ
այսօր,
Հօր Երկնաւոր,
որ եղաւ քեզ գիշեր առեւ
աչք ու պահակ — Սիւն Հրեղէն —
եւ ցերեկուայ կիզիչ տօթին,
քեզ եղաւ Ամպ — քու հովանին
եւ առաջնորդ, որ անվնաս
դուն մեծանաս
ու զօրանաս,
եւ պարգեւներդ աստուածատուր,
տասնապատիկ վերադարձնես
անվերապահ, եւ լեցնես
իմ հայ ազգիս աշխարհացրի բեկորներուն
հազար ու մէկ պէտքն ու կարիք:

Աղօթքըս եւ մաղթանքս է որ,
ձեռքերովդ մէջ մէն մի լուսն
բազմապատկուի հազար անգամ
եւ աւելի.
ու բաժակդ ո՛չ թէ միայն ըլլայ լեցուն,
այլ՝ միշտ յորդի հրաշքօրէն,
օծուն բոյրովն իր հայկական,
ծուն սիրով համայնական,
որ բաշխես զայն միշտ անխտիր,
հայ անկեալին, կարօտեալին:
Դառնաս ցուպ եւ դառնաս անցուկ
ծերունիին,
եւ զոյգ մը աչք մէն մի կոյրին,
եւ զոյգ մ'ականջ մէն մի խուլին.
որ որբացած մանուկներուն,
որբեալորի դժբախտներուն,
ըլլաս երիւթ, ըլլաս օճախ հանգստաւետ.
անօթիին ըլլաս սեղան լայնատարած,
որ ըլլայ ջուր եւ առատ հաց:
Բայց աւելի եւս կարեւոր,
իմ սրտաբովս մաղթանքս է որ,
մանուկներու նորաբարբառ,
դառնաս գրիչ ու մագաղաթ մարտապատ.
տաս ձեռքերուն Աստուածաշունչ, սիրոյ
մատենան,
եւ շրթներուն միշտ յոյսի երգ ու շարական.

ու չըլլայ որ կորստի երբեք
մեզի ժառանգ աստուածաշնորհ
հայզարակին
աշխարհներէն շատ թանկագին
մատղաշ հոգին:

Աղօթքըս եւ մաղթանքս է որ,
քու բարեգործ ընթացքիդ մէջ,
դուն միշտ մնաս Յիսուսաբոյր.
Տերն ալ ըլլայ միշտ քու առջիդ,
ըլլայ ձախիդ եւ ալ աջիդ,
որ չշեղիս երբեք հունէդ,
Քրիստոսն ըրած ղեկավարդ ու կարապետ:

Մաղթանքս է որ դուն միշտ մնաս
գերթ ջահակիր ողիմպիական.
վազքդ երբեք չդանդաղի,
այլ՝ միշտ մնայ անպարտելի.
ջահր ձեռքիդ մնայ անվերջ անմար ճրագ,
եւ լոյսդ փայլի ծագէ ի ծագ:

ՆՈՐԱՅՐ ՍԱՐԵԱՆ



Dr. Norair Sarian presenting plaques to Dr. Mihran Agabian and Dr. Rendel Levonian for yeoman service to Haigazian College, affiliate of the AMAA.

OBITUARIES

NAZARETH NAZARIAN 1912 - 1977

Mr. Nazareth Nazarian, son of Artin and Yester of Aintab found his peace with God on March 13, 1977. As one keenly interested in the AMAA, and to whose projects he extended generous support, he assigned substantial sums to four important Armenian institutions as follows:

AMAA.....\$12,228.95
Haigazian College.....\$12,228.95
Institute for the Armenian
Blind and Deaf.....\$12,228.94
Armenian National
Sanatorium.....\$12,228.94

The Executive Director of the AMAA had the opportunity to visit Nazareth during his hospitalization at about a month before his death. Funeral Services were held at the United Armenian Congregational Church with the Reverend Edward Tovmassian officiating. His message is a message to the living:

"Someone very dear to us has been called to his eternal rest. In His wisdom and mercy God has redeemed Nazareth from all his bodily sufferings and has ushered him into His presence, where there is no more pain, sickness and sorrow. From the darkness of his life he has gone to his home of perpetual light and sunshine. After the sweet and still sleep, he has opened his eyes to be forever with the Lord.

Some people call this death. I do not. The doctor signs a piece of paper and states, at such and such an hour and day, "the heart or the brain stopped from functioning." True, but only the body has stopped, and there ends the doctor's domain.

The Bible and our Christian vocabulary have much better expressions and descriptions: We say, "It is going home after a tedious pilgrimage. It is the pilgrim arriving at his destination. It is the ship of life finally anchoring at the harbor after a stormy journey on the ocean."

Nazareth is in that land now, because throughout his life he believed and served Jesus Christ. Because he lived and died in faith God, the merciful Father, will forgive and overlook all his other weaknesses. God who took



Mr. Nazareth Nazarian and his mother Mrs. Yester Nazarian.

away his broken body, will give a new spiritual body — a body that will not have the limitations the body his mother gave him.

Do we really and truly believe this? If we do, we should look at death not to be a horror, or a tragedy, something to be sorry about, but rather a joyful celebration of the victory of life over death.

Nazareth, whose memory is with us now, was a simple, self-made man, who was keenly sensitive and responsive to God's demand on his life. His religion was something very personal between him and His God. As well as he could, and as best as he knew, he served his Lord.

I have been fortunate in knowing him for many years. He was born on March 6, 1912 in Aintab, Turkey. His parents were Artin and Yester (Krajan) both pious and devout people. His early life was spent and his basic education Nazarian received in Aleppo, Syria. He grew in the atmosphere of the Armenian Evangelical Church. A portion of his life was spent in Teheran, Iran, where he worked with his uncle Ardashes in import and export business.

For the last 30 years, since May, 1947 he has lived in America. Here he was self-employed and by hard work and wise investments in real estate he made a comfortable living—sharing his financial success in charities he preferred. Quietly, and without expecting praises in return, he gave out to the poor and charitable institutions—sometimes himself visiting the sick. It was

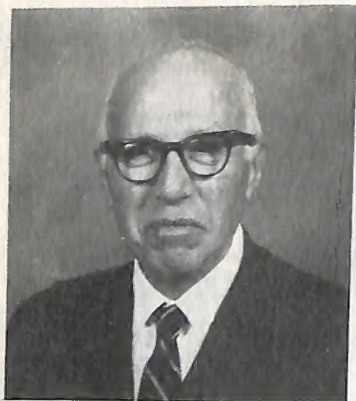
nearly a habit for him on Sundays, after attending church, to drive to hospitals and convalescent homes to visit people who had no friends and needed companionship.

The Bible and Bible verses were his companions and he fed himself on the truths of the Bible. He was an earnest believer in Christ, and he could not endure hypocrisy.

He was in ill health for several years, and carried his cross without much complaining. Having been a celibate all his life—and alone—his four sisters took care of him and his needs, especially during the last month of his life when he was confined to the hospital as a result of a stroke which proved to be fatal. Three days after he was confined to the hospital, he went into a coma. I visited him several times and when I held his hand and prayed for him, I could sense a faint smile which indicated that he was at peace with his God. He expressed to those who were close by to him, that he was ready to go and was not particularly anxious to live any longer. He passed away early Sunday morning March 13, in the Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital."

Nazareth is survived by four sisters: Lisa Missakian; Emilia Churikian; Madeleine Salibian; Alice Babikian and their families; Lucy and Nuvart Nazarians and other relatives.

The Executive Director, G.H. Chopourian, joins the Board of Directors and Officers of the AMAA to extend sympathies to the immediate kin, relatives and friends.



Benjamin Vartabedian

BENJAMIN ARMENAG VARTABEDIAN

Sept. 20, 1905 - Feb. 26, 1979

(Editor's note: Benjamin A. Vartabedian was a devoted member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, held positions as a Board Member and was on numerous committees of the Association the major one being the Managers of Endowment Fund. He was the sponsor of the publication of the Armenian Evangelical Reformation: Causes and Effects by G.H. Chopourian. The Executive Director was present at the viewing in Bridgeport on Thursday March 1 and the Funeral Service in Church in Easton, Connecticut on Friday March 2. We reproduce below the statement of the Rev. S.K. Sulahian, pastor of Pam and Ben of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York).

Benjamin Armenag Vartabedian was born in Sivas, Armenia on September 20, 1905, in the Christian home of Armenag and Mariam Vartabedian. The Vartabedian family survived the Turkish persecutions and migrated to the United States when Benjamin was a youngster. He lived with his parents in Brooklyn, N.Y. and upon graduation from school he joined his father in the rug business firm known as "A. Vartabedian and Son, Inc." When his father passed away, Benjamin became the head of the firm and carried on. He took pride in the business name and put his knowledge and expertise in rugs into the service of his customers. Even after he passed the retirement age, you could not disconnect him from his attachment to, and interest in, his rugs. Each rug had a separate personality for him. As a businessman, he was honest, conscientious and too lenient in regard to accounts collectable to his own

disadvantage. He was a knowledgeable and respected rug man among his colleagues.

One word would describe his family life best — "patriarchal." He had affectionate devotion to his parents. Even after their departure, he had such great attachment to their memory that some people thought it was exceptional. He was "patriarchal" not only in his devotion to his parents but also in his own relationship to his children. He was the 'father' and he acted 'fatherly.' He took this position seriously and obviously he did a good job, because he reared three sons who showed love and respect for him to the very end.

He was a good husband, a good provider, and a loving life mate.

He took his social relationships seriously. He was one who expressed his friendship practically, warmly and graciously. He was a generous host, at times to the extent of embarrassing his guests by not letting them reciprocate. He literally practiced the biblical saying—"It is more blessed to give than to receive." He was fortunate in having a wife who, besides her other virtues and qualities that endeared her to her husband, shared his generous hospitality and gracious entertaining. The Vartabedian home was always open to friends in the same way that the tents of biblical patriarchs were open to all.

Benjamin was an active member of various organizations. His affiliation with them was not a mere formality or a craving for social standing. He put his heart and soul into any task he assumed. He held many important positions in the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York and the Armenian Missionary Assn. of America, to mention only two. Besides his own church, he showed practical concern in the churches of his neighborhood. He spoke about the Armenian Church of the Holy Ascension of Trumbull, Ct. with affection. He enjoyed attending the Jesse Lee United Methodist Church of Easton, and made friends with its pastor, the Rev. Walter H. Everett and many of the members of the congregation. The way Benjamin and Pam Vartabedian had fellowship with the people of this church and this neighborhood, you would think that they had lived here all their lives.

In his personal life and in all his dealings with his family, relatives and friends, Benjamin manifested his faith

in God, his conviction in Christian principles and his inner assurance of life everlasting.

All through his life, and especially during the last few years when health problems multiplied and he was under medical care at home or hospitals, his wife Pam, and the children—Richard and his wife Ann, Michael and his wife Betty, the youngest son Daniel, and the four grandchildren have all revealed an exemplary devotion to him and sought the very best medical care any one can possibly have. This, too, perhaps, is one more proof of the patriarchal virtues he had within himself, which he also instilled in his children.

There is a phrase running through the books of I and II Kings and II Chronicles in the Old Testament, concluding the biographical statements of various biblical personalities, which says—"and he slept with his fathers." I can't think of a more appropriate epitaph for Benjamin than "He slept with his fathers." He was attached to his parents in life and according to his wishes, his remains will be placed next to theirs, where he can sleep with his fathers.

And now, just a few remarks as to why I chose Romans 8:28-31 as the scripture passage for our brief meditation this morning. The issue discussed in this chapter is whether or not it is possible to be separated from the love of Christ. Real love, agape, human and especially divine, is what gives meaning and value to life. We are alive when we are in a relationship of love; when we are loving and being loved. The greatest disturbing factor in physical death is the fear that such a relationship of love can be ended. When we lose a dear one, we are afraid that this experience of mutual love is discontinued.

St. Paul challenges this idea. His words have deep significance for us all. Originally this passage refers to the persecutions that the early Christians experienced because of their faithfulness to the Christian convictions. Paul asks, "Who (or what) can separate us from the love of Christ? ". The answer is—Nothing.

We Armenians were threatened by the mighty Persian Empire in the middle of the fifth century A.D. to deny our Christian faith and accept the Zoroastrian paganism. We endured the persecution, we were martyred, but we remained faithful to our Lord. Nothing could separate us from the

love of Christ. The Persian Zoroastrians who threatened us to change our religion and accept Zoroastrianism, forsook their own Zoroastrianism and accepted Mohammedanism under pressure, but the Armenian Christians remained inseparable from the love of Christ.

In 1914 and during the years following, the Turkish government annihilated a million and a half Christian Armenians because they refused to accept Mohammedanism instead of Christianity. But the Armenians stood firm in the love of Christ.

In less spectacular ways and in more routine manners, our faithfulness to Christ and our being rooted in His love, is often tested. One severe test is when we lose a dear one. We cry from the depth of our hearts,—why? We begin to have second thoughts about God's love. Paul says—"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?" And the answer is—No one and nothing whatsoever!

Our brother Benjamin has gone to sleep with his fathers. He still loves us. We still love him. He loves God, and God loves him. In love there is no separation. The day will come when we shall all gather at our Heavenly Father's "Many mansions" and "God will wipe away every tear from (our) eyes, and death shall be no more", and we shall be "lost in wonder, love and praise."

The AMAA Board and Dr. Chopourian join all others to thank God for the life and memory of our brother. We extend our love and sympathy to his wife, children, relatives and friends. We rejoice in the assurance of life everlasting through our Lord Jesus Christ to whom be honor and glory for ever and ever.

OSCAR H. BANKER SUCCESSFUL INVENTOR

Armenian-born Assadoor Sarafian (Oscar H. Banker) of Moonjooon, Turkey, one of the world's foremost inventors and a Cleveland since 1960, passed away on January 2, 1979. Born in 1895, Oscar arrived in America in 1913, but not so his mother, grandmother, brother, sister, and mother-in-law who were victims of the Turkish atrocities of Armenians in 1915.

Oscar, a strong supporter of the A.M.A.A.'s Child Education Sponsorship Program, made important contributions to American life also which

are listed in a recognition award given by the Inventors and Engineers group:

- "FOR Outstanding brilliance and talent as Inventor, Engineer, and Patent Holder for more than fifty-four years—bringing the introduction of many inventions beneficial to the advancement of the Automotive Industry—world-wide.
- FOR Designing and building the Automatic Transmission first used on a 1928 Model Ambassador.
- FOR The many contributions during the war years; especially, the introduction of the improved drive gears and free-wheeling clutches in helicopters—still in use today.
- FOR Continuous interest—to present date—in improvements and inventions for the advancement of modern-day facilities for mankind."

Oscar was also the:

...Inventor of the first practical needleless inoculation gun in 1967.

...Owner of 300 patents in a wide variety of fields.

Unfortunately, his manuscript, WARS AND TRAUMAS OF THE BASEMENT INVENTOR, is still unpublished and it is hoped that someone will finance the manuscript and make its story known. Both his creativity and tenacity is illustrated by the following story:

"When I acquired a car in 1919, I had to struggle with gear shifting and wondered why the process couldn't be simplified.

"I built the first model of an automatic transmission in 1927 and had it installed in a 1928 Nash. This model had a foot clutch but no gear shift. It started in low, at 10 MPH went into 2nd, and at 25 MPH it went to high. When the car was slowed down to 15 MPH, it went into 2nd, and at 5 MPH into low. I drove this car over 50,000 miles and demonstrated it to the auto industry.

"In November of 1928 officials of one of the big automobile manufacturers drove this car. They were partially pleased and mostly surprised, that an unknown individual who was not even employed in the auto industry, would come along to show them such a device. However, he could not sell the industry on the idea. They thought it was too automatic and the driver would have no control over it. They wanted a unit that the driver could have control on



Oscar H. Banker

all the speeds. So I went back to work again and built a second model, with a new financial backer.

"The first model had been built by a group of ten people forming a syndicate, which went broke in 1929. I persuaded a friend to buy out the syndicate and carry on. The next model had no clutch pedal or gear shift lever and had many new features. After placing the control lever in forward position, you simply pressed the gas pedal. The car started smoothly in low gear and remained in low gear as long as you held down the gas pedal; however, after 5 MPH speed if you decided to move up to second, you released the gas pedal and it shifted to second. In the same way you could remain in second up to full engine RPM if you wanted to. But any time after 15 MPH by reducing the gas, it shifted to high gear. This action removed all criticisms of the experts of the time.

"The automotive industry now began to be interested on the subject, but each company started its own version. One company came out in 1935 with a two speed combination, another with the same type of transmission in 1937. Finally in 1940, one of the large automobile manufacturers (you know who!) came out with Hydramatic. This was actually the beginning of the automatic transmission era. Therefore, the time it took to break the resistance to the now generally accepted automatic transmission was from November, 1928 to 1940, which is twelve years."

Mr. Banker's gentle and loving side came alive with his support of the AMAA's Child Education Sponsorship of elementary and Istanbul Youth

Home children from 1957 to 1979 - a 22 year investment in Armenian youth, most of whom have moved on in life to great positions and hopefully one of whom will walk in the steps of Oscar Banker as an inventor.

The A.M.A.A. Board of Directors together with its President and Executive Director extend sincere and deep sympathies to Oscar H. Banker's wife Rose (Aroosiag); children Marge Carlson; O. Henry, Jr.; Claudia Evans; Matilda Kuch and ten grandchildren.



ARAXIE MIKAYELIAN
1902 - 1979

Araxie Mikayelian, nee Mairaraxie Poosikian, was born on March 18, 1902 in the city of Van, Armenia. Her parents were Anna (Kochoian) and Balthazar Poosikian.

Araxie went to and was graduated from the Primary School in Van run by the American Missionaries. Among her teachers were the Reverends Nushan Hachian and the late Arsen Goergizian.

Araxie and her mother were in Avantz where they had an apricot orchard and vineyard when the Armenian Genocide started in April 1915. They were ousted from their land and started on a trek, suffering unspeakable hardships and deprivation. Araxie and her mother arrived in Igdir and after a short stay went on to Etchmiadzin and thence to Tiflis.

With her mother, Araxie emigrated to the U.S. in October 1920 via Constantinople, travelling on an Armenian passport.

She married Mardiros Mikayelian on June 10, 1921 taking up residence in Union City, N.J. In 1931 she moved to the Yorkville section of Manhattan in New York City. In 1961 she moved to Tappan, N.Y. where she resided until her death.

Araxie Mikayelian is survived by a daughter, Mary A. and two sons Arshag (Arthur) and Herach (Richard).

In memory of her beloved mother Miss Mary A. has made a generous contribution to the AMAA for aid to the Aged and Blind.

KNARIG ELIZA ALBARIAN 1885 - 1979

Mrs. Knarig Eliza Albarian, wife of the late Reverend Sarkis Albarian, entered her eternal rest on January 23, 1979. Born in Marsavan, Armenia on January 19, 1885 she was 94 when she joined her eternal spiritual home. Entombment was in Forest Lawn Memorial-Park, Glendale after a service at 10:30 a.m. on January 27, 1979 at the Church of the Reformation. Participants in the service were Dr. George Z. DuPont, The Reverend V.S. Touryan, Dr. Haig S. Albarian, The Reverend Joseph D. Matossian, and Dr. Edward L. Albarian, her son.

Mrs. Albarian was a faithful contributor to the AMAA and had established a Fund at the time of her husband's death the annual income from which has been distributed towards the education of Armenian youth. The family have announced that in lieu of flower donations may be assigned to the AMAA to be incorporated into the educational Fund established earlier.

Mrs. Albarian is survived by her daughter Mrs. Victoria DuPont and her husband; sons, Dr. Haig S. Albarian and Dr. Edward L. Albarian; daughter Mrs. Isabel A. Miller; 8 grandchildren; and 2 great grandchildren.

The Board of Directors and the Executive Director, G.H. Chopourian, join in extending condolences to her children though, knowing Mrs. Albarian's strong Christian conviction, and

a life of witness, we can be assured that there is no room for tears for she will assuredly be in the company of her heavenly Father.

OBITUARIES

The AMAA Board of Directors extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

Mrs. Sirouhie Derian Winterpark, FL	Dec. 23, 1978
*Oscar H. Banker Bay Village	Jan. 2, 1979
*Mrs. Mary Kumjian Belmont, MA	Jan. 11, 1979
*Mrs. Beatrice Donikian Rensselaer, N.Y.	Jan. 21, 1979
Mr. Edward D. Jamakordzian Flushing, NY	Jan. 25, 1979
*Mrs. Helen Kelligian Watertown, MA	Jan. 1979
Mr. Vahan Beloian Chicago, IL	Jan. 1979
Mrs. Ardemis Ajemian Emerson, NJ	Feb. 13, 1979
*Mr. Benjamin A. Vartabedian Easton, CT	Feb. 26, 1979
*Mrs. Srpouhi Koumjian Cotonsville, MD	Feb. 28, 1979
*Mrs. Araxie Mikayelian Tappan, NY	Winter, 1979
*Dr. Souren Hagop Tashian Seattle, WA	March 14, 1979
Mr. Daniel Akullian Albany, NY	March 18, 1979
*The Rev. D.Y. Kassouny, M.D. Tarrytown, NY	March 23, 1979
*Signifies that memorials were designated for AMAA.	

DICRAN Y. KASSOUNY (1910 - 1979)

Our beloved, multi-talented, gentle Dicran Kassouny has left the entire Armenian Evangelical Community grief-stricken having passed away in his sleep sometime in the early hours of Friday morning March 23. A Memorial Service was held at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus on Sunday April 1, 1979 at 4 p.m. in the presence of a large number of mourners who came to pay their respects.

Dr. Kassouny had arranged for a generous Endowment Fund the annual income for which is to be used for the education of a Bedouin student at Haigazian College in loving respect of his wife who was saved and raised in her early years by Bedouin Arabs. Other assignments are for publication and Sacred Music Singers. Donations made in lieu of flowers will be added to his Endowment Fund with annual income for the purposes stated.

The Board of Directors extend their sympathy but also joyful gratitude for the leadership that Dicran gave to the AMAA.

Greater details will be provided in the next issue.

BOOK ORDER FORM

Please forward book (Nos.)

For a total of \$..... plus \$..... for Postage and Packing (Order books by number and add 25 cents per copy)

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Address State Zip

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April 1979 list. Note: We are not book sellers. We render a service only.

LIST OF AVAILABLE BOOKS AND RECORDS

(LEGEND: pb = Paper Bound; hc = Hard Cover; * = In Armenian)

99	Alexanian, Esther. My Cup Overflows (Record of Hymns)....	5.98
93	Arlen, J. Michael. Passage to Ararat (hc).....	8.95
93a	Armenian Assembly. Directory of Armenian Scholars (pb)....	3.00
93b	AEU-NA. Armenian Evangelical Bilingual Hymnal (hc).....	5.00
* 1	Armenian Evangelical Union of the Near East, (hc).....	2.50
	Hokevor Yerker	
4	Arpee, Leon. A Century of Armenian Protestantism, (pb)....	2.50
4a	Ashjian, Sarkis. Classical Armenian Short Stories, (pb)....	2.50
* 5	Athanas, Hour A. Nushooylnr Yev Nushkharner, (pb).....	3.00
5a	Atikian, Martha. Armenians' Names, (hc).....	3.50
6	Baboiian, Rose. Rose Baboiian's Armenian-American Cook Book.....	7.95
* 5b	Bakalian, Samuel. Koyabadjaru Gyankis (pb).....	7.50
* 5c	Bakalian, Rev. S., Looys Kishervan Mech (pb).....	5.00
7	Barsumian, Nazareth. Stowaway to Heaven (hc).....	10.00
8	Bedikian, Rev. A.A. The Golden Age in the 5th Century	2.00
*13a	Berberian, Haroutune. Paree Louyse Nor Tareshirchan (pb)....	3.00
13b	Berberian, Vahe A., Sacred Music Record (45-RMPstereo).Donation	
*14	Bible, NT. No. M243X, 5 1/4 x 4 1/4, lg. pr., leather.....	9.00
*14a	Bible, Armenian New Testament (in Eastern Armenian), (hc)....	2.75
*14b	Bible, Armenian OT & NT. size 9" x 5 1/2" (hc).....	10.00
18a	Calian, Carnegie S. The Gospel According to the Wall Street Journal (pb).....	3.95
18b	Calian, Carnegie S. Today's Pastor in Tomorrow's World (hc)....	6.95
19a	Chakmakjian, Rev. H.A. Can Israel And Arabs Be Reconciled? The Palestinian Conflict in Biblical Perspective (pb).....	2.00
*19	Chakmakjian, Rev. H.A. Hye Avedaranagan Yegeghetsin Yev Hye Joghovoortu, (pb).....	1.00
*19b	Chobanian, Sarkis A. Uzmayleli Turvakner (pb).....	5.00
50	Chopourian, G.H. The Armenian Evangelical Reformation: Causes and Effects, (hc).....	5.75
	(All proceeds property of AMAA)	
50a	Chopourian, G.H. Our Armenian Christian Heritage, (pb).....	1.50
	Appropriate for Teenagers. (All proceeds property of AMAA).	
50b	Cone, K. Lawrence (Conedrajian). Armenian Church Architecture (hc).....	10.00
99a	Emurian, Ernest. 20th Century Hymns (pb).....	2.50
*53	Goergizian, Rev. A.A. The Paulician-Tondrikian Movement in the Armenian Church (hc).....	5.00
*54	Gurlekian, Rev. Hagop. Genatz Arachnortu, (pb).....	1.50
*55	Gurlekian, Rev. Hagop. Hayoun Hrashali Koyadevoumu, (pb)2.00	
55a	Gurlekian, Rev. Hagop. Christ's Religion in Every Branch of Life (pb).....	10.00
*56	Hachian, Rev. N.K. Hokegan Hooyzer (w/contribution) (pb/hc)	
56a	Haigazian College Banquet Ad Book with abstracts of learned articles from the Haigazian College Review (pb).....	5.00
56c	Hartunian, Rev. Abraham. Neither to Laugh Nor to Weep, (pb).....	2.25
*60c	Hassessian, Rev. Herald A.G. Sects From the Point of View of Christian Truth (pb).....	5.00
61a	Hubbard, Lucina Agbabian. Armenian Art Songs (record)....	6.98
*62	Jedidian, Mr. Hovannes K. Hadundir Badmuvadzknr (Vol. 4 only) (pb).....	2.00

*62a	Karamanian, Alicia. Hokeshounch Koharner, record, stereo....	5.50
*65	Kassouny, Rev. Yeghia S. Loossashavigh, (hc).....	5.00
*67	Kassouny, Yervant H. Haigazian Armenological Review, 1970, 71, 72, (pb).....	each 5.00
*91	Kazanjian, Aghavni H. Arorya Untertzoomner (hc).....	7.00
68a	Kerr, Stanley E. The Lions of Marash (hc).....	19.00
68b	Keshishian, Mark. A Guide to Oriental Rugs (hc).....	30.00
68c	Keyishian, Harry. Michael Arlen (hc).....	6.95
68d	Keshishian, Aram. The Witness of the Armenian Church in a Diaspora Situation.....	5.00
*69	Keyishian, Hovhanness H. Surdee Zeghoumner.....	5.00
70	Krikorian, Rev. M.P. The Adjective of Antioch, (hc).....	3.75
70a	Krikorian, M.P. The Apocalypse of Jesus Christ, (hc).....	5.00
71	Kudian, Mischa. The Bard of Loree (hc)....	4.50
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\$750,000 DONORS REVEALED LEBANON SUPPORTS SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

Mr. and Mrs. Augustine and Vergne Badeer have written to say they were now willing to have their names revealed for the pledge they made anonymously a year ago on the occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary Campaign.

The Badeers are an unusual couple who have labored for Armenian Evangelical causes and for Armenians in Lebanon for many, many years. The couple were originators of the idea of having a large youth camp in the foothills of Beirut. They labored intensely and set up a beautiful summer camp where adults and children received nourishment in body and soul. The Center is known as KCHAG (Krisdoneagan Chanitz Amarnayin Getron).

Mr. Badeer for many years was the administrative director of the Christian Medical Center Hospital in Beirut. The CMC Hospital was conceived and planned by Mr. Badeer along with Doctors Puzant Krikorian and Peter Manoogian as a true venture of faith; they established a hospital run with a spirit of service, based on Christian principles, to manifest an internal spiritual aim. Built in 1948, and serving in reduced programs up to today, the CMC Hospital became a testimony to a Christian experience and gave flesh to the love that filled the hearts of dedicated people. It was built to materialize the dedication and love of Christian doctors. The Hospital also operated a School of Nursing and during these years the number of graduate nurses totaled 123. Unfortunately, in 1977, Mr. Badeer and his associates were led to the decision to close the Center and hoped that God would raise others to pick up the job. In the words of Mr. Badeer: "As we were advancing in age we tried our best to



Mr. & Mrs. Augustine and Vergne Badeer of Lebanon.

find some new owners for the continuation of the hospital. We left no possibility untapped, but sorry to say all our efforts proved fruitless. We were and still are praying and are very desirous of seeing this institution continue as a Christian witness, and a center for medical service. So far God has not shown us the way clearly."

Mr. and Mrs. Badeer gave leadership to the Christian Endeavor Union in the Near East, assisted in children's camps where youngsters of ages 8 to 18 were provided with physical, moral, spiritual and nutritional training.

With this large gift from their estate, the Badeers have assured the continuity of their dreams for Armenians and the Armenian Evangelical world.

We salute them!